AMENDMENT

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1.-36. (cancelled)

37. (previously presented) A method for determining the ability of a candidate substance to inhibit a farnesyl transferase enzyme, comprising the steps of:

(a) obtaining an enzyme composition comprising a farnesyl transferase enzyme that is capable of transferring a farnesyl moiety to a farnesyl acceptor substance;

(b) admixing a candidate substance with the enzyme composition;

(c) determining the ability of the farnesyl transferase enzyme to transfer a farnesyl moiety to a farnesyl acceptor substrate in the presence of the candidate substance; and

(d) administering the candidate substance to a cancer patient to determine the ability of the candidate substance to treat or palliate the cancer.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the farnesyl transferase composition comprises a purified farnesyl:protein transferase enzyme, characterized as follows:

(a) capable of catalyzing the transfer of farnesol to a protein or peptide having a farnesyl acceptor moiety;

(b) capable of binding to an affinity chromatography medium comprised of TKCVIM coupled to a suitable matrix;

(c) exhibiting a molecular weight of between about 70,000 kDa and about 100,000 kDa upon gel filtration chromatography, and comprised of two different subunits, each exhibiting a molecular weight of approximately 45,000 kDa to 50,000 kDa upon SDS-PAGE; and

(d) having a farnesyl transferase activity that is capable of being inhibited by TKCVIM; CVIM; or KKSKTKCVIM.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the farnesyl acceptor substrate comprises a $p21^{ras}$, or any peptide containing a cysteine at the fourth position from the carboxyl terminus.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein step (c) comprises determining the ability of the candidate substance to inhibit the transfer of farnesyl from farnesyl pyrophosphate to the acceptor substrate.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the farnesyl moiety is labeled.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the farnesyl moiety is radiolabeled.

43.-51. (cancelled)

52. (previously presented) A method of determining the ability of a substance to inhibit farnesyl transferase enzyme in cancer cells having a ras-related malignancy, the method comprising:

(a) selecting a substance suspected of having the ability to inhibit farnesyl transferase enzyme by a method that includes:

(i) obtaining an enzyme composition comprising a farnesyl transferase enzyme that is capable of transferring a farnesyl moiety to a farnesyl acceptor substance;

(ii) admixing the substance with the enzyme composition;

(iii) determining the ability of the farnesyl transferase enzyme to transfer a farnesyl moiety to the farnesyl acceptor substrate in the presence of the substance; and

(iv) selecting a substance found to have the ability to inhibit the transfer of the moiety to the substrate; and

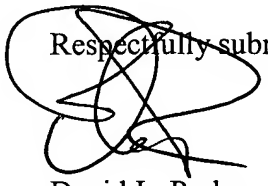
(b) determining the ability of the substance to inhibit farnesyl transferase enzyme in malignant cells of a patient having a ras-related cancer.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the restriction requirement which the Examiner imposed, Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute claims 37-42 and 52, *i.e.*, the Group I claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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